

Educational (1900) Department.

①

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 352

DATED 8/8/00

INDEXED.

Annex 14

[Despatch Abstract.]

Miss Phoebe Parsons

Requesting the D.P. to communicate to _____ first assistant, Presidency Training School for mistresses, Madras, a copy of his and to the Board of G. O. July 1900 on her behalf, saying that she must be put in the Provincial Education Service etc.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Educational (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 922

From The Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

Order

No. 6644

Dated 9 July 1900

Received 17 JUL 1900

Registered D.O.

Enclosures 2 in original

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submitting with remarks a petition of Miss P. J. Sams, 1st Assistant, Presidency Training School for Mistresses, Madras.



EP. R.O. Philanthropy creating new position appointed 13/7/00

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	372876		7-00 R
	6398715		8-91

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

been performed
 to her notwithstanding
 which she has been
 assiduous to which
 d. The first super-
 stitiously after she was
 voice and when, owing
 he had no right to
 Memorialist respectfully
 as it is a considerable
 should have been
 Training School on
 and after she had
 in to her theoretical
 ble acquaintance
 part of her profession.
 which does not presume
 of promotion
 immediate superior,
 to Your Excellency,
 of the circumstances
 the fact that she
 the first ladies in
 on the University
 best upon to confer
 ictor of Arts and
 will, in the exercise
 d in the furtherance
 sympathy with
 ducation among the
 released to ameliorate
 Memorialist by
 Provincial Establishment
 on a continuity of

college course.
 4. The you
 appeared to ap-
 in which your Ihes
 among women in
 honours, that it
 in the Training-
 Memorialist &
 encouragement for
 your Memorialist
 have suffered a
 due to no short
 she prays that
 before laying down
 Presidency, direct
 be done to improve
 5. And
 duty bound, ever

P. S.
 Though not in
 petition, your I.
 that her sister
 position in Ihes
 took service in
 and her talents
 appreciated that
 the solicitations
 of the resident
 on her own ac-
 for young ladies
 most flourishing

889:11th
 1880. 20 624
 415-8-91-
 11/11/11

No. 492.

11th May 1900.

(4)

From

The Acting Superintendent
Presidency Training School
for Mistresses, Madras.

To

The Director of Public Instruction
Madras.



Sir,

I have the honour to submit
a petition from Miss P. F.
Parsons, 1st Assistant, Presidency
Training School for Mistresses,
praying to be put on the
Provincial establishment, and
to add a few remarks.

2. The posts to which Miss
Parsons and her sister were
appointed after graduating

To

His Excellency

Governor of
The Honourable
1st Assistant
Government
for

through the
School, and
Instruction.

Respectfully show

That in the
graduated in the
Bachelor of Arts
1893, after a
Teachers' College
graduated as a
while, in September
appointed 1st Asst.
Training School
of Rs 125, rising
Rs 5 to a maximum
Maximum was
which time your
on the same post
assigned to her
for

were created as she herself states in her petition, for them. The Misses Parsons were appointed to the charge of classes (now called Forms) IV - VI, and took no part in the Practising Department. According to the present educational rules a teacher holding an Upper Secondary Grade Certificate cannot teach a form higher than the 3rd. This training school receives for training students holding general educational certificates of the Primary, Lower Secondary and Upper Secondary Grades. Therefore no classes above

(5)

the third form are required for their training. From the beginning of this year however the high school forms have been utilized for practising upon, owing to having to provide for the practical work of four students from the Teachers' College, Lundapel. The utilization of these high school forms is only a tentative measure.

3. On my enquiring of the Director of Public Instruction the substantive appointment held by me in this institution.

(4)

I was informed by Proceedings
No 3233 dated 8th March 1892,
that I was to enjoy the
position and status of First
Assistant, as a personal
privilege, as long as I remain
in this institution. The privilege
accorded to me implied that I
was to act for the Superintendent
whenever occasion required,
as my five previous appoint-
ments will prove, as also
the two occasions when
I acted as Inspectress. It
will be seen from this that
Miss Parsons has not been
in any way superseded. Her
claims for advancement can
only be considered when I have

*This is just
a matter of precedence
as he exercised by
H. E. the former
nothing within
said by the
head of the
department can
possibly create
a vested right
so to call it, of
promotion.*

*They can of
course be considered
however that
think fit.*

(5)

retired from this institution.
This privilege was no doubt
accorded to me owing to my
long and faithful service of
twenty-one years and owing
to my being specially trained
in England for work of this
kind.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

H. W. Bernard,

of Superintendent

Presidency Training School
for Misses

RR No 6556/

NO. 492

11th May 1900.

From

The Acting Superintendent
Presidency Training School
for Mistresses, Madras.

To

The Director of Public Instruction
Madras.

Subject

Submitting a petition of
Miss P. F. Parsons, 1st
Assistant, Presidency Train-
ing School for Mistresses,
Madras, with remarks.

Encl. 1
No 922

en CURRENT NO. 922

No 6644 dated 9 July 1900.

Submitted to Government.

- M 80 638
15-8-91
2. The appointment filled by Miss Parsons was created specially for her, and it was not intended thereby to supersede Miss Bernard who had been doing good work in the Presidency Training school for Mistresses for many years. To make the designations of the posts agree with the salaries given to the Misses Parsons, they were called 1st Assistant (on Rs. 125-5-150) and 2nd Assistant (on Rs. 100-5-125), respectively. Miss Bernard was called 3rd Assistant (on Rs. 130) the intention being, whenever Miss Bernard should leave the school, to reduce the pay of her appointment to Rs. 80-4-100. In consideration of the fact that Miss Bernard was specially trained in England, that her work has always been good, and that the length of her service is now 21 years, she has invariably been appointed to act as Superintendent of the school on the occurrence of a vacancy, and she has also acted as Inspectress of girls' schools. But this was not a supersession of Miss Parsons. When the latter was appointed Proceedings No 3235, dated 8th March 1892 were issued stating that "Miss Bernard will continue so long as she remains in the school to enjoy the position and status of First Assistant as a personal privilege, but it is not practicable, for financial reasons to designate her First Assistant," and the appointments of ^{the} Misses Parsons as first and second Assistants were declared to be "subject to the personal privileges accorded to Miss Bernard".
3. There is no opening for Miss Parsons in the Provincial Educational Service.
4. With reference to Miss Parsons' remark on higher education among the "women of India" I may mention that she is a European.
5. Miss Parsons' work has always been good, but she should wait for promotion in the ordinary course.

G. H. Stuart
Director of Public Instruction.

Presidency
Mistresses,

Superintendent of
the Director of Pu

eth,

In the year 1891 your Memorialist
Madras University as a
and that in the year
during of one year in the
at Saidapet, she further
Licentiate in Teaching - Mean-
in 1891, she had been
tomb in the Presidency
Mistresses on a salary
annual increments of
of Rs 150. This
not in 1896, since
Memorialist has remained
in the position
at entering the

during a

9

C. No. 922/1900

21/1

Mem. 2
H. 2.

Memorial from Miss Parsons,
praying that something may
be done to improve her
position.

Miss Parsons graduated as
a B.A. in the Madras University
in 1891 & as an A.B. in 1893
(in 1891) (in 1893), having previously been

appointed 1st Assistant in
the Presidency Training
School for mistresses, on
a salary rising from Rs 125
to 150. She reached the
maximum nearly four years
ago. Since then, there has
been no change in her
position, but she has
(to appearance) been super-
seded more than once in
the Training School. Her

she
in the
at occasions,
quired, in addition
knowledge considera-
with the practical
3. Your Memorial
to question the right
exercised by her in
but she prays that
after a consideration
of her case, and of
and her sister were
this Presidency on which
of Madras was con-
the Degrees of B.A.
Licentiate in Teaching
of your prerogative
of your well-being
the cause of the
women of India,
the condition of
bringing her
and thus alleviating
realizing.

(as stated at the last
present prayer is, in brief,
that "something may be
done" to improve her position,
but earlier in her petition,
she asks that she may
be brought on to the Pro-
vincial establishment of
the educational depart-
ment.

2. In his endorsement, the
Director states the case of
the department very clearly.
There is no "opening" for
Miss Parsons in the Pro-
vincial branch; her work
has always been good,
but she must wait for
promotion in the ordinary
course; & as regards her
"supercession", that was
not real.

It may be as well to
point out that this is

10
one of the cases which not
unusually arise out of
arrangements specially de-
vised to safeguard the
interests of a particular
person. At the time of
the first appointment of
Miss Parsons, ~~an~~ offices
were created for her and
for her sister, who had
graduated at the same
examination. They were attached
to the Training School at
the presidency town in the
capacity of "Assistants".
The elder - the present
petitioner - was styled
1st Assistant, and her
pay was fixed, as stated
above, at Rs 125 rising
by instalments to Rs 150.
The younger Miss Parsons
was styled Second Assistant
& her pay was fixed at
Rs 100 rising to Rs 125

their immediate superior
was the Superintendent of
the school, holding one of
the Indian (as opposed to
Provincial) Service appoint-
ments. Below them in

rank was the Below them
in rank came the Third
Assistant. ~~Her~~ The pay
of her appointment was
to be \$80 rising to \$100.

But here the special
arrangement came in. There
was already on the staff
of the school a lady of
the name of Bernard, in
receipt of \$130. She
had been trained in England,
& had served in the depart-
ment for ^{some} ~~further~~ ^{thirteen} ~~or fifteen~~
years; & she appears to
have been deserving of her
pay. Looking forward, however,
to the future, it was de-
cided to reduce the pay

* By the Director, it would
seem. Nothing has been traced
in the Sectt. office as this
point, & must have been

(11)

of her appointment from
\$130 to \$80 rising to
\$100 when vacated by
her, but to introduce the
change of name at once.
Miss Bernard was therefore
designated the Third Assistant,
and became nominally in-
ferior to both of the
Sisters Parsons; before
long, increments to the
pay of the elder Miss Parsons
made her superior to Miss
Bernard in the matter of
emoluments as well.

But by a departmental
order passed by ^{(the late) Mr. Grigg} ~~Mr. Grigg~~
in 1892, it was stated that
so long as Miss Bernard
remained in the school she
was "to enjoy the position
& status of First Assistant
although "for financial
reasons" it was not practi-
cable to designate her as such

And the appointments of ^{the} Misses
Parsons were declared to be "sub-
ject to the personal privileges
accorded to Miss Bernard."

Is it possible to conceive
a more top-sy-turvy arrange-
ment in every respect?

MT

It would hardly have been
defensible, if Miss Bernard
had been within a few
months of the period of
her pension. As it was, she
waited ^{some twelve} ~~more than ten~~
years of that.

4. Miss Bernard's powers
^{as a teacher}
~~of teaching~~ appear to be
considerable, & whenever
the Superintendent's post
has been temporarily
vacant, the Director has
recommended her to H.E.
^{for consideration}
the Governor in the exercise
of his patronage.

5. In her petition Miss
Parsons ^{very} properly disclaims
any intention of questioning
~~appointments~~ that has
been done in this matter,
but Miss Bernard, writing

(12)

as the acting Superintendent
of the Training School, ap-
pears quite to be quite un-
aware that the selection
of incumbents of that office
rests with H.E. and that
the "personal privilege" ac-
corded her by ^{Mr. Griff} ~~Dr. Burdett~~
in 1892 (when her service
was not "twenty-one", but
thirteen years) did not
include the cancellation
of the claims of others
when vacancies should oc-
cur.

6. As regards the specific
request made by Miss Parsons,
the Director states that
there is no opening for
her in the Provincial Service.
As regards her general
request, it is for His
Excellency to consider, if

he thinks fit to do so, when there are opportunities of advancing Miss Parsons.

7. The present petition may perhaps be disposed of by directing the communication of the M^r. Stuart's Endorsement to Miss Parsons.

8. And if the criticism in this note of the arrangement regarding Miss Bernard is considered to be just, the Director might be asked to see whether it is not possible ^{to make} the names of the subordinate appointments in the Presidency Training School fit facts a little closer, as there is no more fertile source of grievances, real or imagined, than misnomers. He may be reminded that in this case eight years have passed without the occurrence of a vacancy in the Third Assistantship, & that in ordinary course, it may be the same for years to come.

MS. 31.7.1900

I think this is all that can be done.

MS.

MS. 31.7.1900

I cannot understand why Miss ~~Parsons~~ Bernard could not have continued to be called First Asst., retaining her pay as she now does, and why the order of the D.P.I. did not direct that when she vacated the post the name & pay should be reduced as proposed. The D.P.I. maybe asked what objection there is to ^{adopting} this course now.

MS. 31.7.00.

D.S.H. 2.8.00

(13) 9
The case of this lady seems a hard one, she must be almost the only lady graduate in the Presidency at present - Possibly if sanction is given for a new inspection of schools, as has been asked for - G.O. 366

19 June 1899 - Some provision may be given to Miss Parsons.

Meanwhile the above seems to be the only reply that can be given to her.

MS.
27. 00

184

Edual. dep.

NOTE FOR THE

desp

Order No 352 8-8-00

The Director will be requested to communicate a copy of his endorsement of the 9th alt., No. 6644, to Miss Parsons.

[Signature]
6⁰⁰ Vice

M.I.
4.8.1900

Dear

[Signature]
Pro.
Despatch
8/8
6.8.1900

[Faint handwritten notes, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side]

[L. & M. Dept.
1,500-19-3-00.]

NOTE FOR THE *Secy.*

*I have suggested
a go in regard to
the enquiry.*

*MS
4.8.1900*

*DO - sent
\$
6.00*

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____ } 190 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____, DATED
190 .

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

- A = Copy in full.
- B = Not to be copied.
- P = Copy abstract only.
- Q = Copy heading only.